

CMO35 2015 ANNUAL MEETING

Meeting opened: 11:35 am

Roll Call: All teams present except – Brimfield & Cosmos

Old Business: Fall meeting minutes were read and accepted. The issue of teams showing up late for was discussed and determined that for the most part all teams showed up on time this past season. The President thanked the team managers and asked that it continue. The higher referee fees were discussed and it was decided to remain at \$70 at the field and \$20 for each timely game report. It was also decided to remain with one referee in all divisions. The increase of the League fee to \$200 was discussed and approved. All agreed that the trial season of the three division format went well and would like to see it continue for the next season. Bylaw law fines were up to date. There were a few older 'No passcard' fines and it was voted to drop them from the bylaw fine list. Three Bylaws were voted on and passed unanimously: 1. League fees: Raised to \$200; 2. Referee fees to be \$70 at the field and \$20 for each timely game report; 3. The team divisions were changed from the two division A/B format to the three A/B/C format used during the Fall 2015 season. The wording of the actual bylaws can be found on the League web-site.

Officers Reports:

President – Craig went to the Mass Adult Soccer Annual meeting and brought back the following info; The State at present is extremely short of adult referees and asking for help from the Leagues. State Cup games are available to any team in our League wishing to participate. The Cup dates and times are available on the State's web-site. Free web-sites were offered by the State to any participating League. The State made the Leagues aware that any referee assault or abuse must be reported to the State for disciplinary action and the State will also review any player bans that the Leagues may be considering. It is now up to the Leagues as to require passcards at games. It was noted that if cards are required or not all players must still be registered with the State. The State will be issuing passcards without expiration dates.

Secretary – The new State registration/roster system worked very well. After the roster freeze date it takes longer to drop and injured player and add a replacement however the State is working on a software fix to allow the League administer to make the change. Jack asked that any field changes or field closed dates be forwarded to him by mid-January so that the game schedules could be created.

Referee Assignor – Dale mentioned that the State's need for adult referees is a concern. It is getting harder to find enough qualified referees to cover all the adult games. He felt that for at least the next season we would have to remain with one referee in all divisions because qualified referees are in short supply and enough AR's are just not available. To make matters worst concerns with a couple of the referees assigned this last season was discussed and it was agreed at least one would not be asked to return. He also suggested a meeting with the referees before the season starts. It was agreed that the Board of Directors would meet with the referees.

Competition Committee – Jay spoke for the Committee and stated that the card count was low again this past season with the usual yellow cards and about the same red card count. He mentioned that slide tackle cards was up and asked the team managers to be sure to explain the rule especially to

their new players. The red cards were addressed as quickly as possible with most being the 'normal' red requiring two games or less. However there were a couple of serious ones that needed deeper review with the possibility of extended game suspensions and possible league ban.

New Business: It was voted on and accepted that Passcards are not required on game day. Rosters are MANDATORY, no roster – NO GAME. If the referee asks for ID the player MUST show either his passcard or driver's license. Refusal results in non-eligible. The Spring game dates were approved – April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22, June 5, 12, 19. Makeup dates: June 26 & July 10. Field changes – Grafton in question, Sturbridge moves to High School (Cage field). All teams returning next Spring and there were no new teams added.

Election of Officers:

President – Craig Hibbert

Vice President – Peter Silverman

Secretary – Jack Keough

Referee Assignor – Dale Rio

Treasurer – Craig Hibbert

Competition Committee – Jay Cohen, Mike Engel, Tony O'Donnell, Edwige Jean-Baptist, PJ Bernardt

Meeting Closed: 1:25 pm